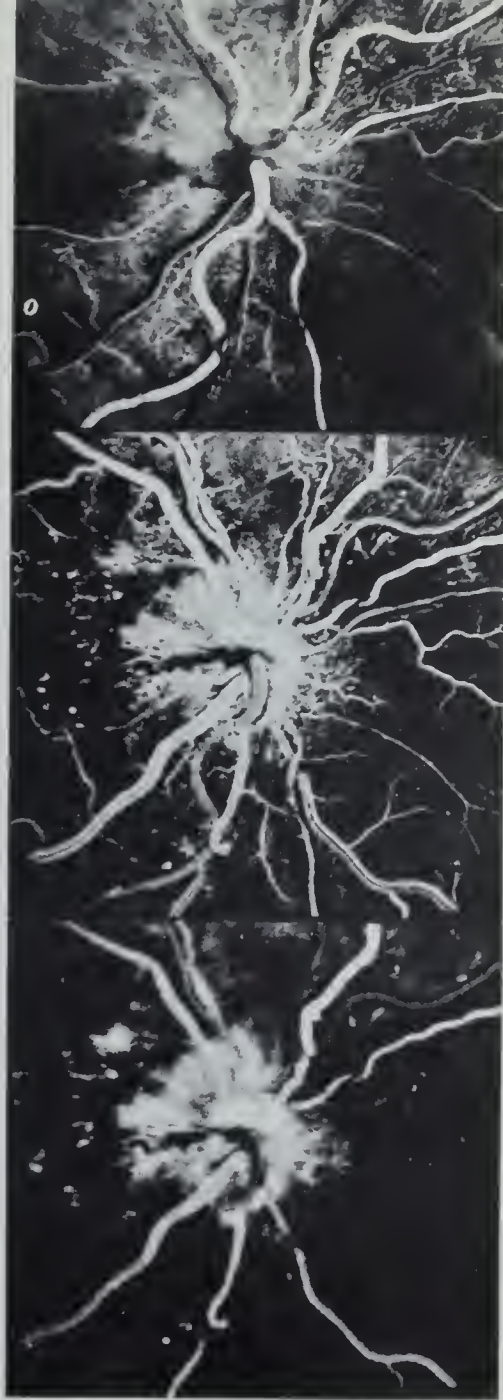


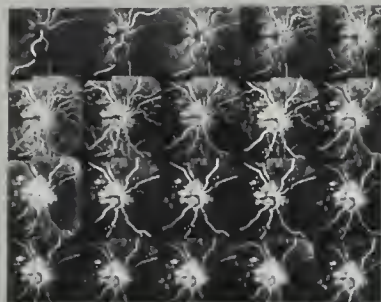
the human retina



**toward
the conquest
of blinding
diseases**

**Research to Prevent
Blindness, Inc.
1968 Annual Report**

On the cover



Vascular system of the human retina is revealed by split-second sequence photos as a dye quickly circulates through retinal arteries and veins. In studies conducted by RPB Award-winning research team at the Howe Laboratory of Ophthalmology (See page 11).

RPB Grantee- Harvard University.



the era of the possible

The mystery of sight has perplexed man since the beginning of time. He has enjoyed the blessing without understanding it. He has suffered its loss without satisfactory explanation. Not knowing the causes, unable to prevent or cure, he has lived in fear of blinding diseases as he has feared death itself.

Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc. (RPB) is dedicated to removing that fear. Through support of eye research it seeks answers to questions which have never before been answerable.



Looking into the back of the eye, a research fellow examines the retina for abnormalities in blood flow which may threaten the visual process. **RPB Grantee- Boston University.**

Advances in science and technology have opened vast new opportunities to understand and protect human life. RPB is bringing those opportunities to scientists who work for the preservation of sight.

This is a time different from any other time—the era of the possible.

It is time for **the conquest of blindness**



RPB grantees seek new techniques for dealing with the many eye diseases that originate in the early stages of life and may cause irreversible damage to sight. More than 12 million schoolchildren in the United States need some form of eye care. (RPB Grantee—University of Oregon)

Scientists have learned more about sight in the last decade than in all the preceding centuries. Their research capabilities have never been greater—and are constantly increasing. Important improvements have been made in diagnosis, surgery and treatment of eye diseases. Eyes are being saved that once would have been blinded. This is a beginning.

But it is just a beginning.

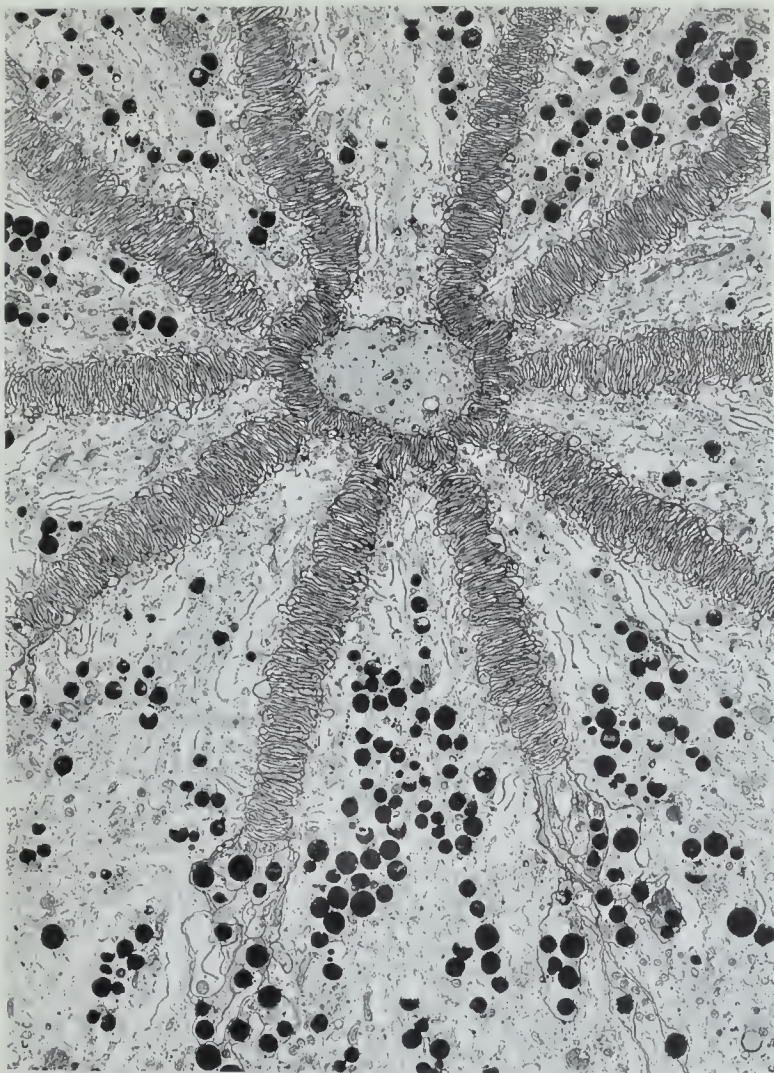
While the ophthalmologist works with all the implements of modern science to save sight, the number of people needing help continues to rise. Blindness is increasing faster than physicians and surgeons can deal with it. People live longer. Infants and adults survive diseases that no longer kill, but often leave serious visual impairment. In the next ten years more than 500,000 Americans will go blind and many millions more will face severe visual handicaps if the present trend continues.

RPB has therefore moved beyond traditional concepts of serving the blind only after they are hopelessly afflicted, and is projecting nationwide programs to develop and extend the capabilities of those engaged in eye research—one of the most neglected of all the medical sciences.

RPB-supported research has two goals:

- (1) To develop new opportunities for saving or restoring the sight of those already threatened with blindness.**
- (2) To blunt the threat of severe visual loss by finding and eradicating the causes of eye diseases which account for 80 percent of all blindness.**

In moving toward these goals it has been necessary for RPB to inspire a massive reawakening of interest in the research aspects of the problems of vision. A nation that poured an ever-increasing portion of its resources into health research following World War II simply overlooked the opportunities that were present for a realistic attack against blinding diseases. Intensive, well-financed programs of research were organized and developed in other important areas of medical science, heavily backed by government and private funds. Eye research was left behind, conducted in most institutions on a part-time basis as a subdivision of the departments of surgery.



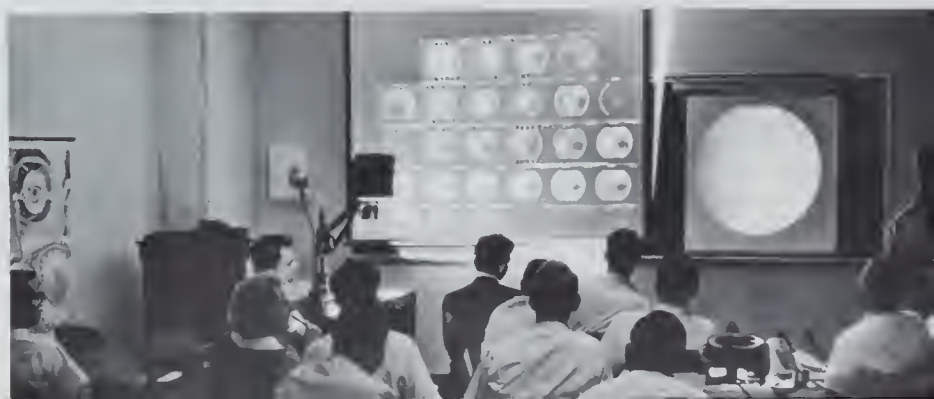
Primitive insect eyes are providing clues to the nature and mechanism of human sight. The artistic pattern is a micrograph of the optic nerve of a horsefly. (RPB Grantee—Yale University)

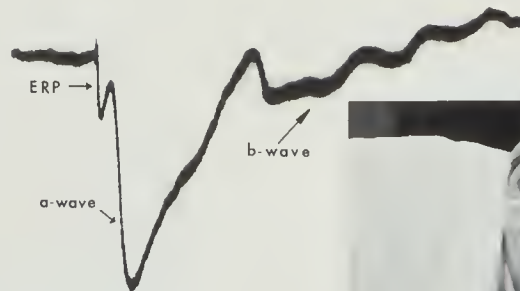
Color and fluorescein photos reveal minute details of diseased eyes, permitting continuous study of the disease process and progress in treatment. (RPB Grantee—University of Miami)

The establishment of Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc. has brought a totally new element to the support of ophthalmic investigations—the dynamics of successful business management, applied to all the practical problems that were blocking the natural development of eye research. An exhaustive scientific survey conducted by RPB revealed that the primary roadblocks were those that could be moved most effectively by experienced laymen, working in consultation with leading ophthalmic scientists. These involved the logistics of modern research development—the need for:

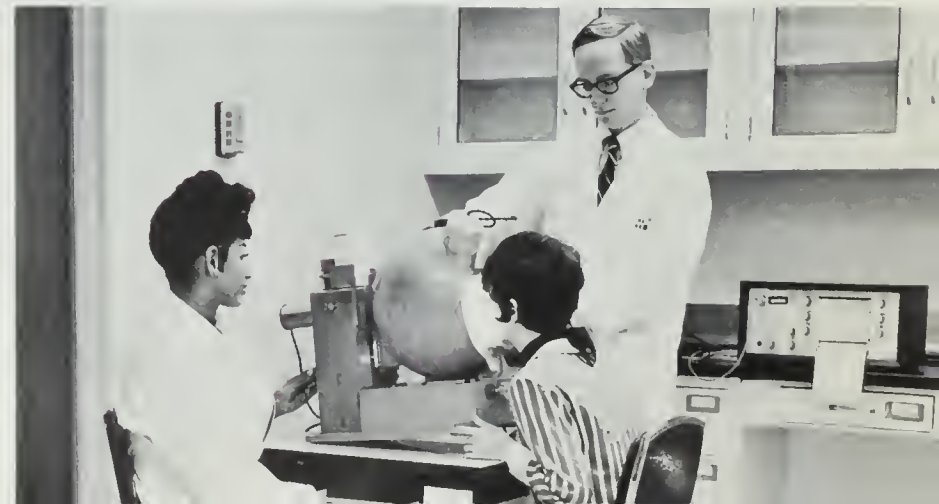
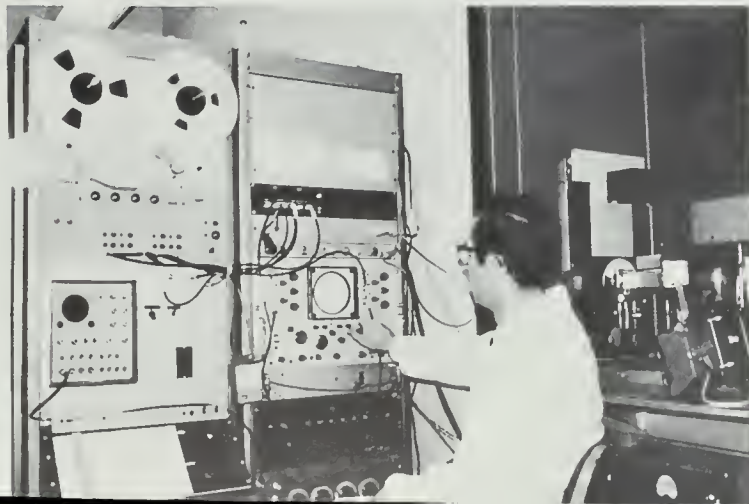
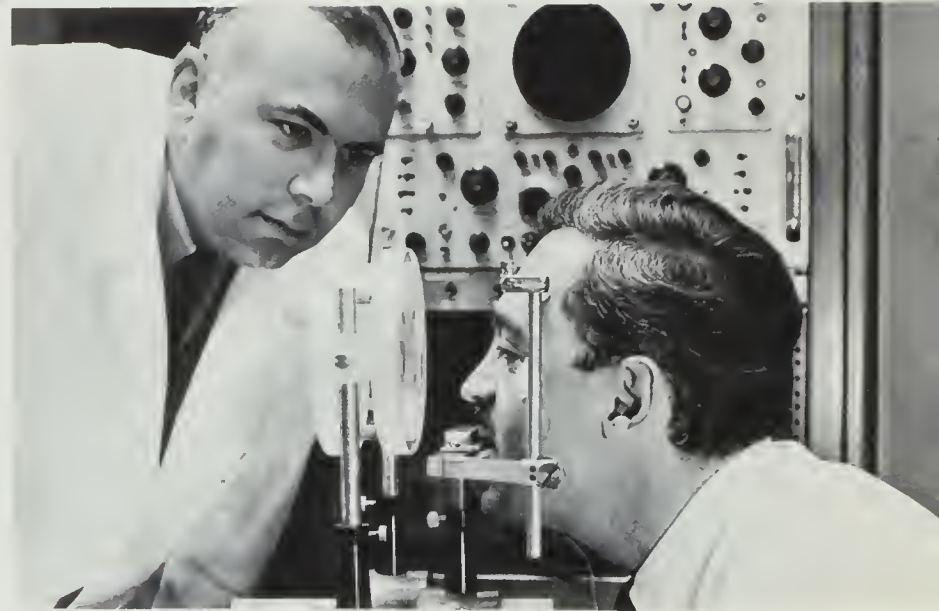
- advanced scientific equipment
- adequate laboratory space
- increased numbers of skilled scientists and technicians
- improved opportunities for communication of scientific information
- a vastly greater financial investment in the work of existing laboratories to create a nationwide intensification and acceleration of eye research.

RPB has channeled more than \$18 million into the young and still relatively underdeveloped field of eye research since 1960. Through RPB's unique laboratory construction program, magnificent new eye research centers are rising across the nation. At the same time RPB continues to expand its list of grantees. Unrestricted grants to 40 major research institutions now amount to more than \$1,200,000. To directors of research, eager to strengthen the total effectiveness of their departments, RPB awards have special significance. Their unrestricted nature provides wide latitude for meeting basic needs in the expansion of research capabilities and the development of new ideas and concepts.





Technical progress has vastly increased the ability of scientists to explore and record the hidden events taking place along the pathways of vision. In photo at right, waves on the oscilloscope reveal simultaneously the electrical responses from three different areas of the retina, helping the scientist pinpoint retinal disturbances. (RPB Grantee—New York University). Below, sophisticated apparatus electronically records impulses from the eye of a patient in an adjacent sound-proof, light-tight, shielded room. (RPB Grantee—University of Michigan). Bottom right, modern ophthalmological equipment, though intricate and costly, returns enormous benefits not only in laboratory research but in the quick and accurate diagnosis of disease. (RPB Grantee—University of California, Los Angeles)



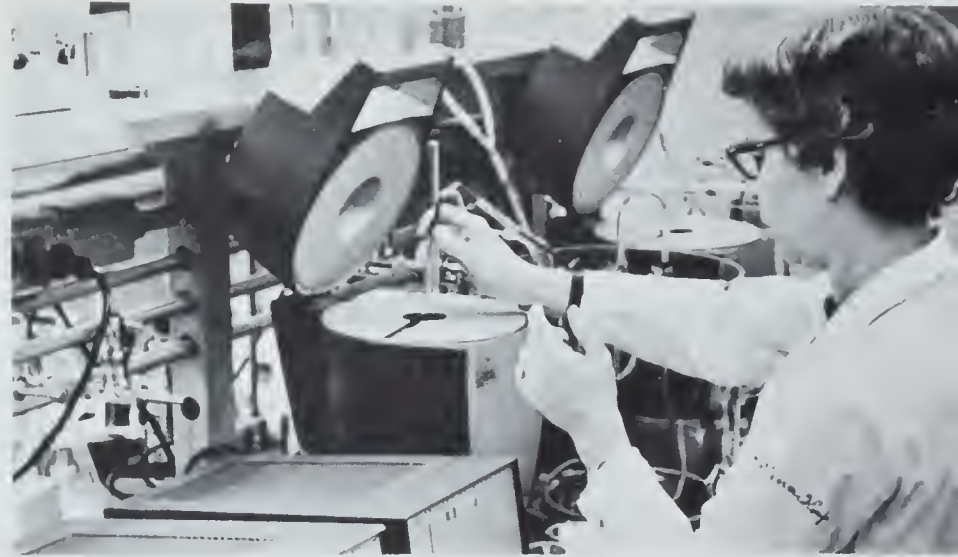
technology for eye research

The inadequacy of man's equipment for dealing with disorders of the eye has frustrated inquiring minds since the beginning of time. For more than two thousand years physicians treated cataracts by dislodging the clouded lens with a needle and pushing it back into the chamber of the eye of anyone desperate enough to submit to such primitive surgery. Examination of the interior chamber of the eye of a living person was a practical impossibility until the invention of the ophthalmoscope in 1851. The physician, the surgeon and the investigator have been hampered at every turn by the inaccessibility of the most critical areas of this tiny organ.

The opportunity to burst beyond these limitations has at last come to the ophthalmic investigator. Powerful electron microscopes are revealing the nature and function of the most minute elements of the visual processes. Motion pictures and still photography record in precise detail the delicate and complex order of living tissue in remote recesses of the eye chamber. From basic explorations in biochemistry and molecular biology to the practical aspects of the blossoming field of microsurgery, the skills of ophthalmic scientists and physicians can now be extended, sharpened and accelerated to a degree never before possible.

RPB's programs are designed to bring this new capability to eye researchers who have had insufficient access to the complex and expensive tools of modern science. RPB funds have been used for the design, construction and purchase of lasers, computer devices, electronic measuring systems, microinstrumentation, ultrasound devices, electron microscopes and other magnificent tools of today's Era of the Possible in the conquest of blinding diseases.

Physiological characteristics of the eye's pigmentary tissues are recorded through the use of a hand-held oscillation probe in studies of how blinding uveal infections occur. (RPB Grantee—Georgetown University)



Sensitive gamma ray detectors are used to trace the course of radioactive agents as they are incorporated into healthy and abnormal retinal tissues. (RPB Grantee—Mt. Sinai Hospital)



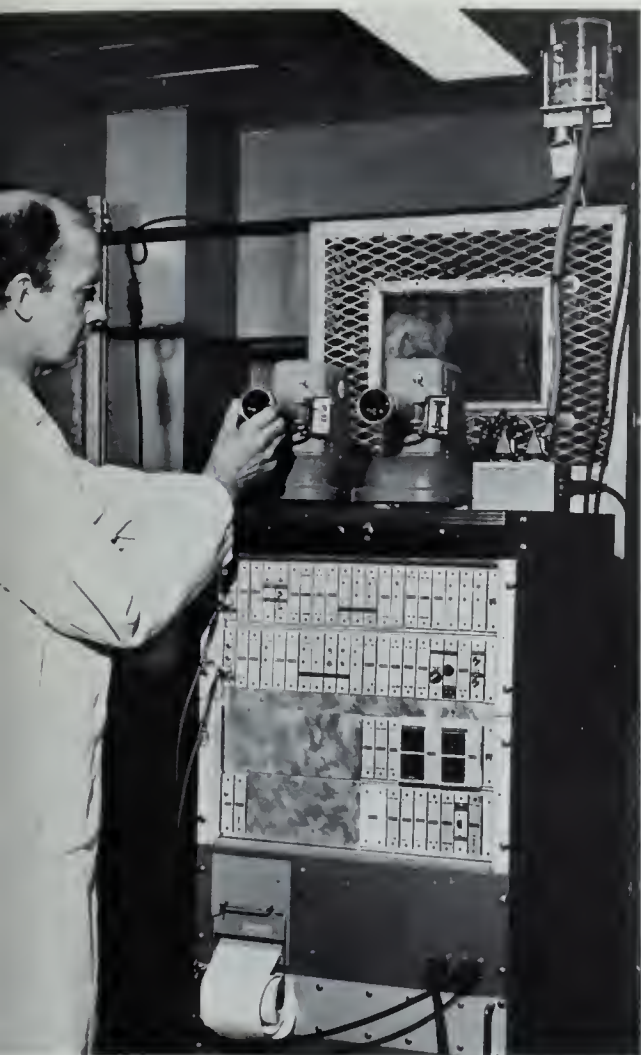
technology (continued)

RPB grants are providing fresh impetus for intensified eye research at long established centers whose programs have encountered serious limitations of obsolete and inadequate laboratory space and equipment. At the same time RPB has given encouragement and practical assistance to many medical institutions where programs in ophthalmic research have only recently sprung to life. During 1968, annual unrestricted grants amounting to \$175,000 were awarded, and included new grantees at the University of the Pacific (Institute of Medical Sciences), Temple University (Wills Eye Hospital), Boston University and George Washington University. Each received annual unrestricted grants on the basis of their splendid ongoing work and high potential for future growth. RPB also extended Development Grants for the first time to Stanford and Tufts Universities to encourage their emerging eye research programs and to assist them in meeting initial needs over the next two years.

Photos of the retina taken in monochromatic light are used to observe and diagnose disease processes for both clinical and research purposes. (RPB Grantee—Jefferson Medical College)



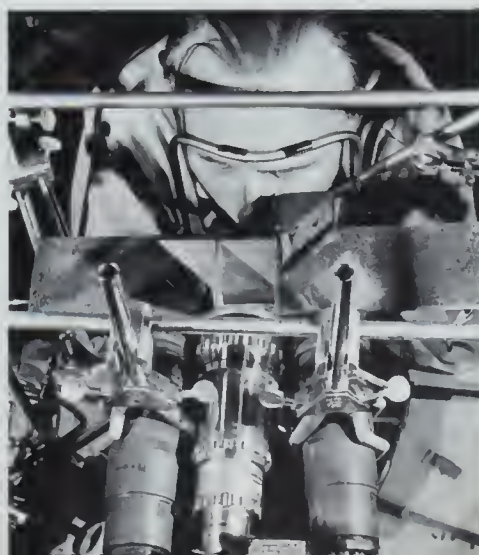
As knowledge of the eye expands, new teaching devices help speed the flow of information to those who work for the preservation of sight. (RPB Grantee—Baylor University)



Response of a monkey to visual stimulation is tested through complex apparatus which projects an image on a screen and records animal's response, rewarding him with a food pellet. (RPB Grantee—University of Washington)



With the computer as patient, doctor-in-training goes through the entire process leading to evaluation, diagnosis and recommendations for treatment of cases programmed by faculty. (RPB Grantee—Indiana University)



The anatomy of the human iris is being unfolded in electron microscope studies to determine how its muscles control the amount of light entering the eye. (RPB Grantee—University of California, San Francisco)

A technique for producing motion pictures of blood circulating in the back of both eyes, photographed simultaneously, is being developed for more thorough study of retinal systems. (RPB Grantee—University of the Pacific)

new resources of **manpower**



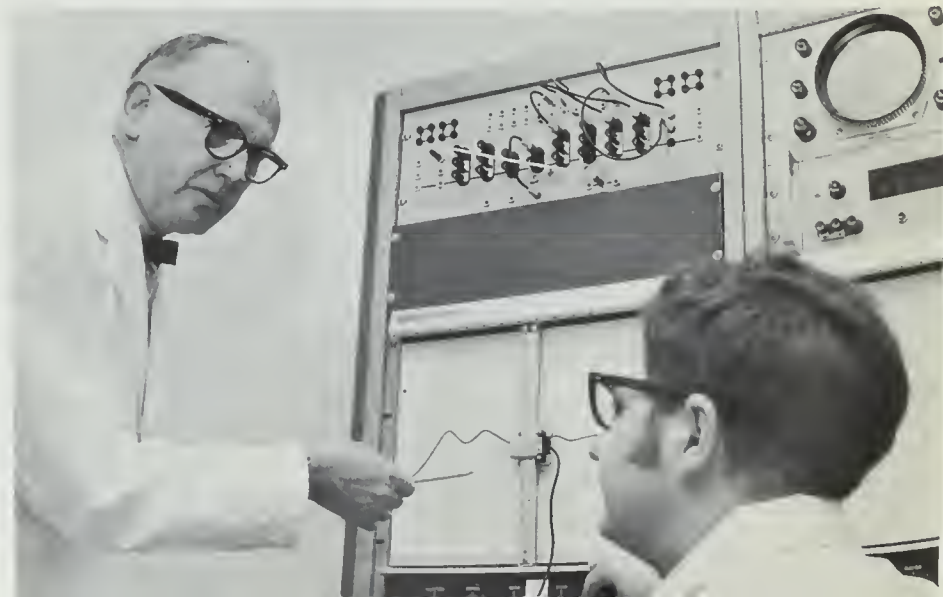
Filling the critical need for eye research personnel is a major objective of RPB. Dr. Alan M. Laties (right), working under a five-year \$75,000 RPB Eye Research Professorship, has contributed importantly to basic knowledge of the microscopic world of 130 million photo receptors which are responsible for human vision. (RPB Grantee—University of Pennsylvania)

RPB grants provide incentive for talented medical students to pursue part-time and vacation-time studies in eye research laboratories, preparing them for later specialization in ophthalmic science. (RPB Grantee—Oakland University, Michigan)

Scientists working under RPB grants explore a vast world of diverse interests. The ophthalmologist-researcher who once worked almost alone, using whatever time could be spared from clinical practice to pursue laboratory investigations, is becoming obsolete. His modern counterpart is the director of a team on which any number of scientific and medical specialties may be represented. The explosion of knowledge in the basic sciences has opened unprecedented opportunities for research into every phase of the visual process. The biochemist, the anatomist, the embryologist—the list is long, the specialties complex—are now making major contributions to knowledge of the eye, its intricate function and the diseases which threaten sight.

As eye research breaks the limitations of its long relationship with surgery and reaches out toward these new opportunities, it faces critical manpower shortages. There are not enough ophthalmic investigators, there is a shortage of teachers to train new ones, a shortage of teaching programs, and insufficient financial incentive to attract young researchers in the numbers that are needed.

RPB is working to close this manpower gap. In 1968 a \$75,000 RPB Eye Research Professorship was awarded to the University of



for eye research

Miami to provide five-year salary support for Dr. Douglas Anderson, an ophthalmologist with a major interest in electron microscopy. The addition of Dr. Anderson brings a new dimension to Miami's basic eye research programs. Other RPB Professorships have gone to talented young scientists at Johns Hopkins University and the University of Pennsylvania. An RPB Manpower Award to the Institute of Biological Sciences of Oakland (Michigan) University enabled four medical students to study basic eye research techniques by assisting in the work of the eminent institute director. At Stanford University, an RPB Manpower Award provided critical funds for the continuation of ophthalmic research by a physiologist of international reputation whose services otherwise would have been lost.

Other institutions used unrestricted funds for similar purposes, attracting promising young people to eye research at various stages in their medical education, assisting in the development of teaching programs, materials and personnel, providing the essential means for hiring and retaining key research staff and assistants.

The training of manpower for eye research is a mammoth undertaking. RPB has successfully exposed the critical shortage of investigators in this neglected field and has been a major source of help to institutions in meeting their immediate manpower needs. Most importantly, RPB is winning for eye research a far greater involvement of government, medical science, teaching institutions and private enterprise, all of which must join in an intensive effort if there is to be progress against blinding diseases.



Announcement that a four-man team of Harvard scientists will share the \$27,500 RPB Trustees Award for Outstanding Ophthalmic Achievement was made by RPB President Robert E. McCormick (center) in the scientists' laboratory. The team, under the inspired leadership of David G. Cogan, M.D., director of the Howe Laboratory of Ophthalmology, Harvard Medical School, has made extraordinary contributions to scientific knowledge and treatment of diseases which are the principal causes of blindness in the world today. Shown sharing the good news are (left to right) Jin H. Kinoshita, Ph.D., Dr. Cogan, Mr. McCormick, Morton Grant, M.D. and Toichiro Kuwabara, M.D.

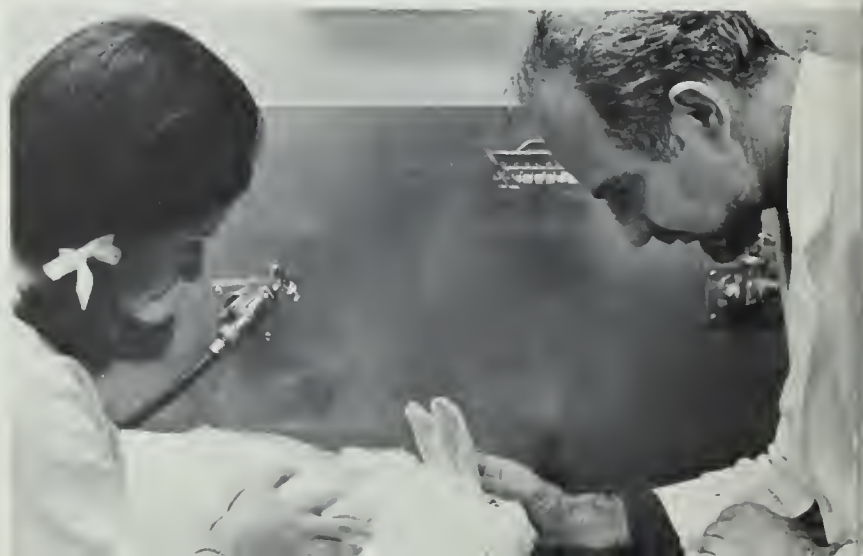
manpower (continued)

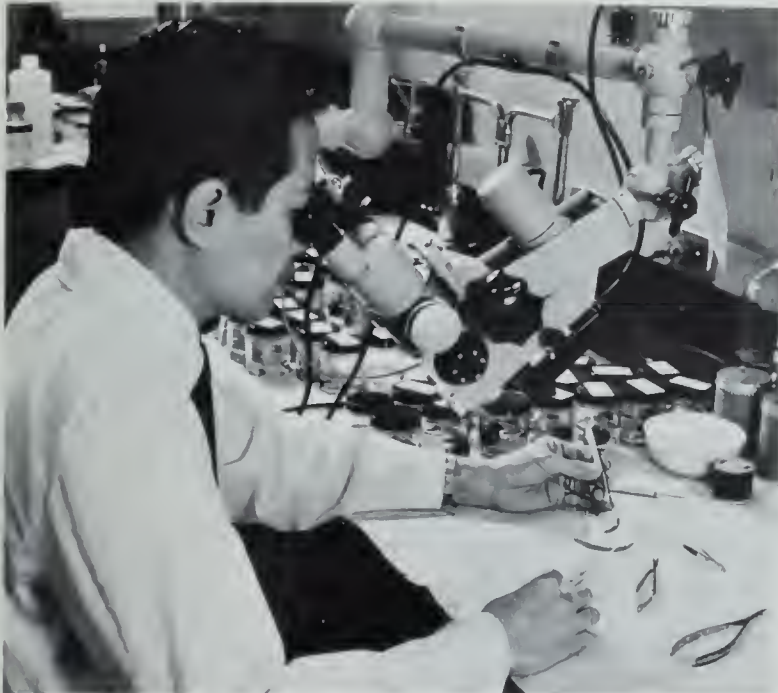
To multiply the effectiveness of existing eye research manpower, RPB in 1968 created two new programs for the exchange of scientific information and concepts. The first, an International Research Scholars Program, is designed to encourage young, promising foreign students to visit and work for short periods in American eye research laboratories. The second is a Visiting Professors Program through which selected senior American ophthalmic scientists will share their experience and knowledge with residents, medical students and staffs of departments of ophthalmology to which they will pay short visits on invitation. Both programs will be implemented in 1969.



An RPB Manpower Award makes it possible for a gifted electron microscopist to pursue intensive studies of the ultrastructure of the cornea and its diseases. (RPB Grantee—Cornell University)

Examining a patient by means of an indirect binocular ophthalmoscope using fiber optics as a light source. The new equipment, purchased through an RPB grant, greatly increases the range of the physician's observations. (RPB Grantee—University of Minnesota)





Exploration of the network of arteries, veins and aqueous paths that nourish the eye is a laborious process, requiring the skilled researcher to devise special instruments and techniques for his work. **(RPB Grantee—Yale University)**

An RPB emergency Manpower Award enabled Stanford University to retain the distinguished Dr. David Maurice to head its laboratory of ocular physiology when lack of other funds jeopardized continuation of his work. **(RPB Grantee—Stanford University)**

"This research project would not have been instituted without RPB support" states a report on the work of this gifted microbiologist who is tracing the role of pneumococci in corneal disease. **(RPB Grantee—Tulane University)**



Technician engaged in glaucoma studies of aging Arizona Indians. Population studies, financed by RPB, are shedding new light on the genetic aspects of the disease. **(RPB Grantee—Washington University, St. Louis)**

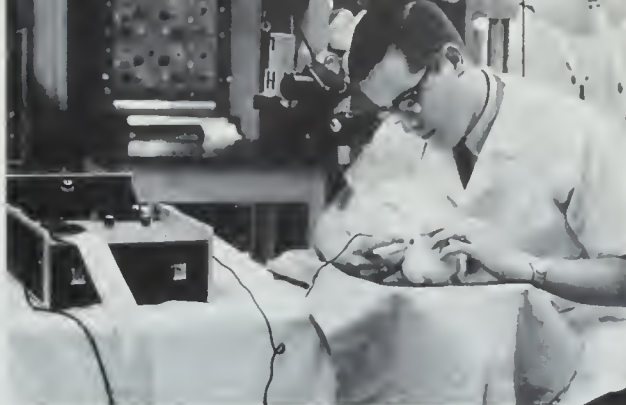


RPB
unrestricted
grant
recipients

Institution		Total Granted 1968 Grants Through 1968	
California	Francis I. Proctor Foundation	\$ 5,000	\$ 45,000
	* Stanford University	2,500	2,500
	University of California, San Francisco	5,000	45,000
	University of California, Los Angeles	5,000	45,000
	University of the Pacific—Institute of Medical Sciences	5,000	5,000
Colorado	University of Colorado	5,000	25,000
Connecticut	Yale University	5,000	35,000
District of Columbia	Georgetown University	5,000	15,000
	George Washington University	5,000	5,000
Florida	University of Florida	5,000	35,000
	University of Miami	5,000	45,000
Illinois	University of Chicago	5,000	45,000
Indiana	Indiana University	5,000	45,000
Iowa	State University of Iowa	5,000	45,000
Kentucky	University of Louisville	5,000	30,000
Louisiana	Tulane University	5,000	35,000
Maryland	Johns Hopkins University		
	(Wilmer Institute of Ophthalmology)	5,000	45,000
Massachusetts	Boston University	5,000	10,000
	Harvard University—Mass. Eye & Ear Inf. (Howe Laboratory of Ophthalmology)	5,000	45,000
	Retina Foundation	5,000	45,000
	* Tufts University	2,500	2,500

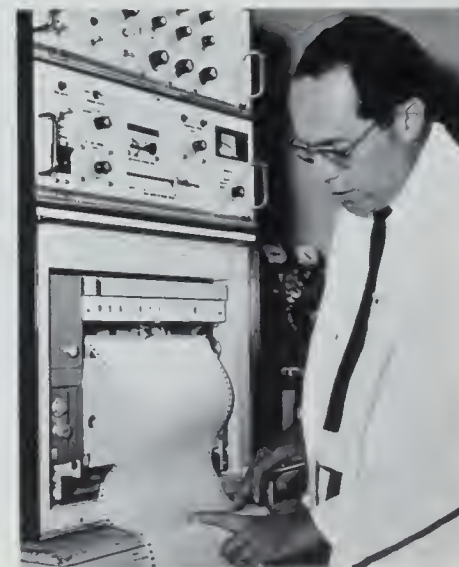
Institution		Total Granted 1968 Grants Through 1968	
Michigan	Kresge Eye Institute		40,000
	University of Michigan	5,000	45,000
Minnesota	University of Minnesota	5,000	45,000
Missouri	Washington University	5,000	45,000
New York	Columbia University	5,000	45,000
	Cornell University	5,000	45,000
	Eye Bank for Sight Restoration		10,000
	Mt. Sinai Hospital	5,000	20,000
	New York University	5,000	45,000
	Yeshiva University (Albert Einstein College of Medicine)		20,000
North Carolina	Duke University	5,000	15,000
Oregon	University of Oregon	5,000	45,000
Pennsylvania	Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia	5,000	20,000
	Temple University—Wills Eye Hospital	5,000	10,000
	University of Pennsylvania	5,000	45,000
Tennessee	* Vanderbilt University	2,500	5,000
Texas	Baylor University	5,000	30,000
Virginia	Medical College of Virginia	5,000	30,000
Washington	* University of Washington	2,500	5,000
		<u>\$175,000</u>	<u>\$1,215,000</u>

Diet and other factors contributing to enlargement of eyeballs and glaucoma are studied through use of a special strain of rabbits with enlarged eyes, obtained with RPB funds. (RPB Grantee—Medical College of Virginia)



Pipetting radioactive samples of lens extract for counting, in studies aimed at defining how cataracts are formed. (RPB Grantee—University of Colorado)

RPB eye research programs



Ophthalmic biochemist recruited and provided with laboratory space with RPB funds, analyzes his tests of drug penetration levels in the cornea. (RPB Grantee—Vanderbilt University)

a national eye institute is born

August 17, 1968 marked an historic moment in the progress of eye research. On that day President Lyndon B. Johnson signed legislation creating a National Eye Institute, to take its place among the Cancer, Heart and other splendid units of the National Institutes of Health which are the backbone of health research and training in the United States. The establishment of the Eye Institute represents an important break from outmoded concepts which have obscured the critical need for an intensive national effort in the field of vision and stunted the growth of eye research. It provides the framework for collaboration between government and private institutions in a massive program to save the sight of millions.

RPB's leadership in making the National Eye Institute a reality is a remarkable demonstration of the vitality it has brought to eye research. Acting on the convictions of our most eminent ophthalmic scientists, RPB initiated and sustained for more than five years those efforts which brought about Congressional and Presidential action. RPB continuously and effectively presented to the Congress evidence of needs and opportunities which were being neglected in the submersion of eye research at the important level of the National Institutes of Health.

The intensive nationwide survey of eye research sponsored by RPB and its resulting report, "Ophthalmic Research: U.S.A.", conclusively exposed the inadequacy of interest and support for scientists who were attempting to stem the rise of blindness with little assistance. RPB rallied support for enabling legislation and in November, 1967 a panel of eminent ophthalmologists presented the full case for a National Eye Institute to a key committee of the House of Representatives. So convincing was this testimony that this legislation, which previously had been given no chance of passage, was carried without dissenting vote by both chambers of the Congress.

The key witnesses who carried the principal responsibility for the establishment of the Eye Institute were Dr. Jules Stein, chairman of RPB, and Drs. David G. Cogan, Thomas D. Duane, Michael J. Hogan, Herbert E. Kaufman, A. Edward Maumenee, Frank W. Newell, Ralph W. Ryan and Bradley R. Straatsma.



At Congressional hearings

Dr. Stein is shown testifying in favor of legislation establishing a National Eye Institute, addressing Congressman John Jarman, chairman of the Subcommittee on Public Health and Welfare of the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce. Other subcommittee members present were Congressmen Peter N. Kyros, David E. Satterfield, Paul G. Rogers, Ancher Nelsen, Tim Lee Carter and Joe Skubitz.



EDITORIALS



THE EYE, EAR, NOSE & THROAT MONTHLY

The Institute

The signature of Lyndon B. Johnson on a bill creating a National Eye Institute culminates a long effort by many persons within and without the specialty of ophthalmology. The various phases through which this plan had to pass provides an interesting study on just what is needed in order to make progress today in this area of Federal activity.

In the first place, it is obvious that the sustained efforts of Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc. under the leadership of Dr. Jules Stein, was crucial to the success achieved. As a certified ophthalmologist with broad experience in the world of business and finance, Dr. Stein was able to focus many talents on the problem at hand. Establishment of the RPB organization in format similar to certain foundations, yet free of many hidebound restrictions on administration and grant dispersal, was the first step. The creation of RPB was almost immediately evidenced by the flow of entirely unrestricted dollars into many of the nation's important teaching centers in ophthalmology. Needless to say, this was a fresh experience for many of them; it gave an emotional lift that far exceeded the monetary value of funds dispersed.

Concurrently, major fund raising help was given to several centers which culminated in new construction of major eye centers. Also, effective testimony began to appear in congressional hearings in the early sixties concerning the cost and incidence of blindness, and latterly the desirability of a separate eye institute as part of the National Institutes of Health. These things, too, were the work of RPB.

Not everyone agreed with the desirability and need for a separate eye institute, as is well known. Yet, progress toward this goal was never impeded by bitterness or senseless conflict; the entire campaign was noted as using legitimate aims. This may be one of the finest achievements — orderly advancement made without sacrifice of former alliances.

The National Institutes of Neurological Diseases and Blindness, which nourished the first major expansion of eye research and training in America, can take justifiable pride in having made ophthalmology strong enough to undertake this latest step. No one involved in training young ophthalmologists in the past fifteen years will ever forget the enormous help received by our specialty from NINDB! They made us ready for the help that RPB brought; a wonderful model of Federal and private collaboration that should do much to dispel suspicions often surrounding such efforts.

Ophthalmology everywhere gains enormous, new self-respect in the competitive world of modern medicine by having become the first of the specialties to foster a new and separate institute.

Thank you Dr. Stein.—

J. O'Rourke, M.D.

building for



Another RPB-sponsored eye research center rises at the University of Louisville, Kentucky. The \$2,000,000 facility is a cooperative undertaking of the Kentucky Lions, the University and Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc. It will be ready for occupancy in 1969. RPB financed the original campaign survey and paid all fund raising costs, so that voluntary gifts were used entirely for construction of the center. (RPB Grantee—University of Louisville)

eye research

As the capabilities of modern eye research are recognized, existing laboratory space becomes pitifully inadequate for the work that must be done. Where the part-time ophthalmic investigator required minimal space for his efforts, the director of a vigorous eye research program must find room for a wide range of scientific activities involving more equipment, more people and more space.

In instances where RPB has found advanced eye research severely handicapped by inadequate laboratory space, it has provided practical assistance to institutions in expanding their facilities. Through a unique construction program, RPB has financed entire eye research building campaigns, paying all fund raising costs so that every penny contributed goes directly to the involved institution for research purposes. So far, approximately \$16,000,000 has been channeled into eye research construction from various sources at a fund raising cost to RPB of less than two percent.

By the end of 1968, two new eye research centers constructed as RPB projects at Johns Hopkins University and the University of California, Los Angeles, had become flourishing laboratories, and two other splendid new buildings neared completion at Columbia University in New York and at the University of



In New York City, exterior work nears completion on a splendid modern facility for the renowned Columbia-Presbyterian Institute of Ophthalmology. The RPB-sponsored campaign produced \$6,600,000 for what had started as a \$3,000,000 campaign, enabling the Institute to vastly extend its effectiveness in the preservation of sight. **(RPB Grantee—Columbia University)**

At Duke University, North Carolina, plans for a major eye center have been completed and a fund raising campaign is under way with RPB assistance. Photo shows a section of the new building as conceived by the architects. **(RPB Grantee—Duke University)**

building (continued)

Louisville, Kentucky. At the Columbia-Presbyterian Institute of Ophthalmology, an RPB-sponsored campaign with an original goal of \$3,000,000 produced \$6,600,000 to meet the space needs of expanding research. At Louisville, dedication of the new \$2,000,000 ophthalmic center is planned for the spring of 1969.

A major eye center for Duke University has passed the planning stages, campaign material has been produced under a grant from RPB and, with the drive just under way, more than \$250,000 already has been raised. Meanwhile RPB has entered into discussions with nine other major medical institutions, each of them anxious to increase its capacity for intensive investigations in ophthalmology. Study and analysis of the scientific and practical aspects of such construction are now under consideration.



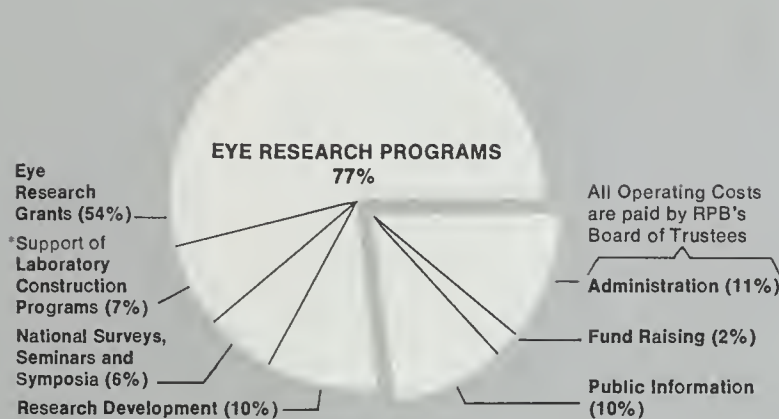
As RPB-sponsored eye centers rise across the country, they are occupied by imaginative scientists who carry with them new hope for the conquest of blinding diseases. Dr. John E. Dowling, brilliant young scientist at Johns Hopkins University and the first RPB Eye Research Professor, is producing major contributions to basic knowledge of the eye through his work at the \$1,600,000 center created for Johns Hopkins' famed Wilmer Ophthalmological Institute. **(RPB Grantee—Johns Hopkins University)**



Constructed as an RPB project and named for RPB's chairman by the regents of UCLA, the \$6,000,000 **Jules Stein Eye Institute** reflects the expanded scope of modern eye research. Included among its facilities are laboratories for biochemistry, microbiology, visual neurophysiology, virology, immunology and pharmacology, isotopes, physiological optics, histochemistry, histopathology, experimental ophthalmology, visual physiology, electron microscopy and teaching, as well as animal quarters, photography and dark rooms. These are part of a vast arena in which the activities of numerous scientists and technicians are integrated with the clinical and teaching aspects of ophthalmology in a concerted effort to preserve sight. At right, Dr. Stein tells staff nurses of the enthusiastic support received from those whose names are cut in marble on the major donors' plaque—among them many of the most famous names in the entertainment world. (RPB Grantee—University of California, Los Angeles)

economics and eye research

How RPB Funds Have Been Invested 1960-68



RPB's operating costs are met through contributions from its volunteer Board of Trustees, thus freeing all other donations for programs in support of research. Its extremely low fund raising costs are the result of a highly selective approach to individuals, foundations and corporations.

*Represents expenditures in underwriting research building campaigns whose proceeds, amounting to \$12,000,000, were donated directly to the institutions involved, **not** to RPB.

Eye research never has enjoyed the economic abundance of the affluent years of health research expansion. The huge voluntary contributions and government investments that brought an end to polio epidemics and ignited intensive scientific efforts in the fight against other major diseases did not come to the ophthalmic investigator. Until recently, there has been no one to direct attention—and resources—his way.

Largely through the efforts of Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc., the initial steps now are being taken to build a concerted research attack against blinding diseases. But a new threat has arisen for eye research—the threat of cutbacks in governmental and private support of medical research that will hit this emerging science with far greater impact than those with already established programs. Funds presently available for research and training in vision, while higher than the pitifully inadequate investment of a few years back, remain far below the amounts spent in other health areas. Any limitations in the growth of these funds will have an effect not only in retarding on-going projects, but in aborting embryonic programs that would have far-reaching influence upon man's ability to deal with the tragedy of increasing blindness.

RPB's financial aid to departments of ophthalmology has never been more important than at this critical moment. Equally important is the sustained leadership that has brought about the creation of a National Eye Institute, the construction of modern eye research centers, the stimulation of important new research ideas and concepts, and a significant strengthening of the role of the eye research team in its relationship to other sciences.

New contributors to RPB often are surprised to learn that the field of eye research has been brought to life through the efforts of an organization which administratively remains one of the smallest of all voluntary health groups. RPB's primary strength as the nation's sixth largest contributor to medical research lies in the dynamic relationship it has built among members of the scientific

community and dedicated lay volunteers who have the experience and ability to solve practical problems of research development.

RPB's annual income for the year 1968 exceeded \$600,000. Gifts amounting to more than \$230,000 were received in response to the annual year-end appeal by the Chairman of the Board, Dr. Jules Stein. He and Mrs. Stein matched each of these gifts with their own personal contributions. The final total of more than \$460,000 exceeded all other previous returns from this unique appeal. Pledges amounting to \$46,131 are not reflected in the accompanying Financial Statements.

RPB's operating costs are met through the Trustees' personal contributions. Fund raising costs remain at less than two percent. The dollar value of RPB's influence on the advancement of eye research cannot be calculated. But it is obvious that the Trustees have made each dollar go a long way.



James S. Adams
Treasurer

RPB Budget of Expenditures and/or Commitments—1969

Research grants and other program expenditures or commitments:

Unrestricted Research Grants to medical schools and other institutions	\$200,000
International Research Scholars and Visiting Professors Programs ..	100,000
Research Professorship Grants.....	150,000
Research Development Grants.....	25,000
Special, Emergency and Research Manpower Grants.....	50,000
Scientific Seminars and Symposia.....	30,000
Ophthalmic Awards for Outstanding Achievement.....	30,000
Research laboratory construction campaign expenses to provide new facilities at eye research centers.....	50,000
Program Development	35,000
Public and Professional Information.....	<u>70,000</u>
	<u>\$740,000</u>

Operating expenditures:

Staff salaries and consultants services.....	\$ 34,000
Accountants' fee	2,500
Office equipment	3,000
General and health insurance.....	6,000
Pension and retirement plan.....	11,000
General administration	9,000
Fund raising	10,000
Contingencies	<u>3,500</u>
Total operating expenditures.....	<u>\$ 79,000</u>
Total planned expenditures and commitments.....	<u>\$819,000</u>

Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc.

Statement of Financial Position—December 31, 1968

Assets:

Cash:

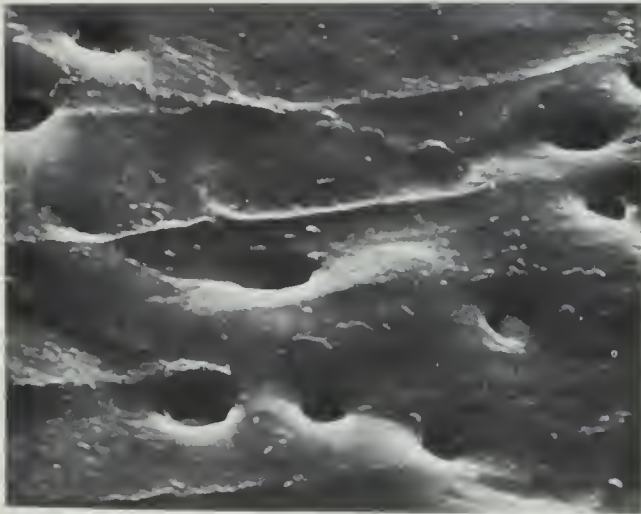
Checking accounts	\$ 27,569
Interest-bearing accounts	246,668

Investments, at cost:

MCA Inc. common stock—6,342 shares (quoted market—\$279,048) (Note 2)	\$ 284,993
U. S. Government securities (quoted market—\$1,182,237)	1,192,401
Corporate bonds (quoted market —\$449,125)	499,984
Other securities (quoted market—\$13,683)	<u>13,001</u>
	1,990,379
Less—Reserve to reduce investments to quoted market	<u>66,286</u>
	1,924,093
Interest and dividends receivable and other assets	<u>27,292</u>
	<u>2,225,622</u>

Liabilities:

Accounts payable and accrued expenses	14,033
Professorship grants	<u>75,000</u>
	89,033
Net assets	<u>\$2,136,589</u>



The surface of the human cornea, photographed at high magnification by the scanning electron microscope, may hold as many secrets as the lunar landscape it resembles. Eye research scientists, supported by RPB, are exploring such newly-charted worlds for answers to the mysteries of sight. (RPB Grantee—Harvard University)

Statement of Operations

	Year ended December 31	
	1968	1967
Income:		
Donations:		
Securities, at market value on date of gift.....	\$ 259,305	\$ 239,579
Cash	233,547	232,216
Personal property, at amounts realized.....	1,000	4,214
	493,852	476,009
Interest and dividends.....	108,977	103,302
Gain on sale of securities.....	75,616	753
Special event (less related expenses of \$7,880)...		59,264
Total income	678,445	639,328
Program grants and expenditures:		
Research grants to medical schools and other institutions	255,144	167,750
Program development to stimulate laboratory expansion programs and the intensification of ophthalmological research activities.....	45,823	23,138
Public information	45,716	36,340
Scientific achievement awards program.....	31,445	38,138
Research manpower awards.....	9,250	10,000
Scientific surveys, seminars and symposia.....	7,177	23,985
Cost of raising funds for new eye research buildings (Note 1).....	332	17,953
	394,887	317,304
Expenses:		
Administration	58,315	44,368
Fund raising	5,236	7,387
	63,551	51,755
Provision required to reduce investments to quoted market	66,286	
Total deductions	524,724	369,059
Increase in net assets.....	153,721	270,269
Net assets at beginning of year.....	1,982,868	1,712,599
Net assets at end of year.....	\$2,136,589	\$1,982,868

Notes to the Financial Statements—December 31, 1968

Note 1: Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc. (RPB) pays all fund-raising costs for eye research building campaigns which it initiates and sponsors for leading medical research centers throughout the United States. Contributions resulting from such campaigns are not received by or channeled through RPB, but are conveyed by contributors directly to the medical centers. During 1968, construction campaigns were in the process of completion or development at the Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center, University of Louisville and Duke University. These institutions report that contributions and pledges, not including governmental funds, in excess of \$8,000,000 had been received from the inception of their campaigns to December 31, 1968. RPB campaigns concluded in 1964 and 1966 resulted in the construction of eye research buildings at The Johns Hopkins University and the University of California, Los Angeles.

Note 2: Substantially all of the MCA Inc. common stock held by Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc. can be transferred or hypothecated only if registered under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or as is otherwise provided by law.

Note 3: Effective January 1, 1968, Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc. established a trustee pension plan covering all active employees who have completed one year of service. The total pension expense for the year was \$10,017, which includes amortization of past service cost over a period of 10 years. The plan has been submitted to the Internal Revenue Service for approval.

Opinion of Independent Accountants

To the Board of Trustees
Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc.

In our opinion, the accompanying statement of financial position and related statement of operations present fairly the financial position of Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc. at December 31, 1968 and its income and expenses for the year, in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles applied on a basis consistent with that of the preceding year. Our examination of these statements was made in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards and accordingly included such tests of the accounting records and such other auditing procedures as we considered necessary in the circumstances, including confirmation of the cash and securities owned at December 31, 1968 by correspondence with the depositaries. It was impracticable for us to extend our examination of donations received beyond accounting for amounts so recorded.

Price Waterhouse & Co.

April 17, 1969
New York, N. Y.

Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc. 598 Madison Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022

Officers and Trustees

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Chairman of the Board, MCA Inc., and former
practicing ophthalmologist

Robert E. McCormick, *President*
Attorney, former corporate officer,
Olin Mathieson Chemical Corp.

Mrs. Albert D. Lasker, *Vice President*
President, Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation

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Harvard Medical School

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Executive Director

Harold F. Spalter, M.D.
Secretary, Scientific Advisory Panel

Albert V. Burns
Director of Public Information

bequests

to RPB are especially welcome as a means of assuring the continuity and stability of research programs.

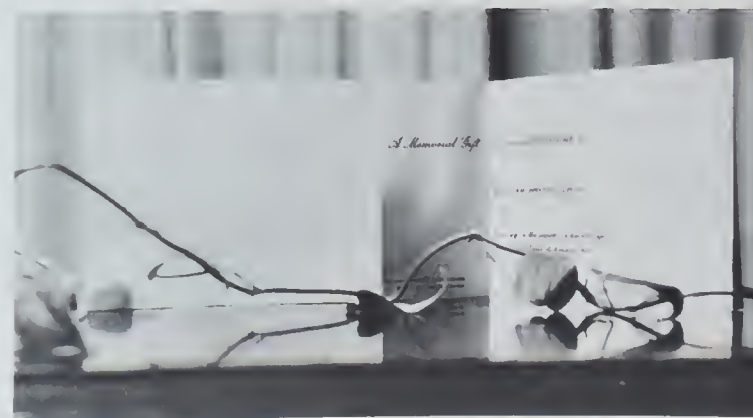
The proper form for such bequest is:

"I give and bequeath

to Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc.
of 598 Madison Avenue, New York City,
a membership corporation organized
under the laws of the State of New York,
for its corporate purposes,
the sum ofdollars."

memorial gifts

may be made to Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc. in any amount and will be acknowledged with dignity. An appropriate Memorial Card (see photo) is sent in behalf of the giver to the family of the deceased. The donor receives a Thank You card of similar design.





Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc. 598 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y. 10022